

AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A non-contact tonometer comprising:

an alignment light source for emitting a light flux for alignment of a cornea of an eye to be examined;

a projection optical system for projecting the light flux from the alignment light source onto the cornea of the eye to be examined;

image capture means for sensing, after completing the alignment between the cornea of the eye to be examined and the non-contact tonometer, an image obtained from a reflected alignment light flux which is the light flux projected onto and reflected by the cornea of the eye to be examined;

a cornea deformation means for deforming the cornea of the eye to be examined by blowing pressurized air onto the cornea of the eye to be examined;

an intraocular pressure measurement light source for emitting a measurement light flux for measurement of an intraocular pressure of the eye to be examined;

the projection optical system for projecting the measurement light flux from the intraocular pressure measurement light source onto the cornea of the eye to be examined;

intraocular pressure measurement light receiving means for detecting a reflected measurement light flux which is the measurement light flux projected onto and reflected from the cornea of the eye to be examined; and

a CPU configured to predict ~~for predicting~~ a maximum output value of an output signal which is output from the intraocular pressure measurement light receiving means on the basis of an intensity of the image, at a time of completing the alignment, sensed by the image capture means, and to execute ~~for executing~~ an error processing in a case that an output value of the output signal from the intraocular pressure light receiving means exceeds the predicted maximum output value.

2-4. (cancelled).

- 5. (withdrawn)** A method of measuring intraocular pressure comprising the steps of:
- projecting an alignment detection light flux to an eye to be examined;
 - performing alignment adjustment based on reflected light of the alignment detection light flux;
 - blowing a fluid onto the eye to be examined while projecting an intraocular pressure measurement light flux to the eye to be examined;
 - receiving reflected light of said intraocular pressure measurement light flux from said eye to be examined and outputting a received light signal;
 - determining a reference value to be compared with said received light signal based on received light quantity of said reflected light of the alignment detection light flux,
 - wherein said reference value is based on a brightness of bright points based on image data of an anterior ocular segment at a time of alignment; and
 - determining validity of said received light signal by comparing said reference value and a level of the received light signal.
- 6. (withdrawn)** A method of measuring intraocular pressure according to claim 5 further comprising a step of measuring an intraocular pressure value in the case that it is determined that said received light signal is valid.
- 7. (withdrawn)** A method according to claim 5 further comprising a step of displaying the measured value on a monitor in the case that it is determined that said received light signal is valid.
- 8. (withdrawn)** A method of measuring intraocular pressure comprising the steps of:
- projecting an alignment detection light flux to an eye to be examined;
 - receiving reflected light of said alignment detection light flux from the eye to be examined;

projecting intraocular pressure measurement light flux to the eye to be examined;
and

determining validity of measurement of the intraocular pressure by comparing a reference value based on a brightness of bright points based on image data of an anterior ocular segment at a time of alignment and determined based on said reflected light of the alignment light flux from said eye to be examined, and a level of reflected light of said intraocular pressure measurement light flux.

9-10. (cancelled).